

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/656,938

Examiner

Anh V. La

Applicant(s)

JOHN A. DEVOS

Art Unit

2636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed on Jan. 06, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-8,11-43 and 45-52.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

I. Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the prior art cited herein fails to disclose a sensor comprising a substrate including a first surface and a second opposite surface and a first element imprinted on the first surface, the first element including first electroconductive material and being visually indiscernible from proximate portions of the first surface, and a second element imprinted on the second surface, the second element including a second electroconductive material and being visually indiscernible from proximate portions of the second surface.

Regarding claim 14, the prior art cited herein fails to disclose a sensor imprintably positioned on a substrate comprising a first element containing electroconductive material, a second element selectively movable into and out of contact with the first element, a power source, and at least one power consuming device wherein the power source and power consuming device are in electrical communication when the first and second elements are in contact with one another and wherein the electroconductive material in the first element is visually indiscernible from the substrate.

Regarding claim 21, the prior art cited herein fails to disclose a device having at least two surfaces in moveable relationship to one another comprising a first substrate associated with a first surface having an outwardly oriented surface, a second substrate associated with a second surface having an outwardly oriented in removable overlying relationship to the first surface, at least one electrically active element imprinted on at

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least one of the first and second substrates, the electrically active element having at least one region of electroconductive material, wherein at least a portion of the region of electroconductive material is visually indiscernible relative to the associated substrate.

Regarding claim 43, the prior art cited herein fails to disclose a sensor comprising at least one element containing at least one electroconductive material and at least one active region configured in at least one of inductive mode and capacitive mode and means for supporting the element, wherein the element is visually indiscernible from the support means.

Regarding claim 51, the prior art cited herein fails to disclose a sensor comprising a substrate and at least one element imprinted on the substrate, wherein the element is visually indiscernible from the substrate, the element containing at least one electroconductive material and having an active region configured in an inductive mode.

Regarding claim 52, the prior art cited herein fails to disclose a sensor comprising a substrate and at least one element imprinted on the substrate, wherein the element is visually indiscernible from the substrate, the element containing at least one electroconductive material and having an active region configured in a capacitive mode.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

II. Examiner's Amendment:

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CAR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Examiner's Amendment

In the claims:

In claim 1, line 6, the phrase "the first surface; and" has been changed to - -the first surface--.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh V. La whose telephone number is (571) 272-2970. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 9:30am to 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffery Hofsass can be reached on (571) 272-2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



ANH V. LA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Anh V La
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2636

AI
March 04, 2006